

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06578 241300Z

41

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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Z O 241248Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1315

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6578

EXDIS

DEPT TREAT AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: BEIRUT EVACUATION: APPROVAL GRANTED TO EVACUATE BY

SEA ON TUESDAY, JULY 27

REF: STAE 182823

1. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR JUST INFORMED ME BY TELEHPONE, THREE AND A HALF HOURS AFTER I FIRST MET WITH HIM, THAT PLO HAS AGREED TO OUR EVACUATING BY SEA ON TUESDAY, JULY 27. MEANWHILE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES HERE, PLO IS ANSWERING THAT IT HAS NO RPT NO OBJECTION TO SEA EVACUATION.

2. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE, INDICATED ABOVE, CONVEYED BEFORE A PLANNED RSO MEETING WITH PLO SECURITY OFFICIAL. THIS MEETING (WHICH WILL OCCUR IN FIFTEEN MINUTES) THEREFORE WILL CONCERN ITSELF ONLY WITH

EVACUATION DETAILS.

3. COMMENT: I STRONGLY URGE THAT USG OFFICIALS AVOID GIVING IMPRESSIONS TO JOURNALISTS OR ANYONE OUTSIDE OF GOVERNMENT THAT PLO HAS CAPITULATED UNDER OUR PRESSURE. IF WE SAY THIS, WE WILL RISK COMPLICATING OUR EVACUATION EFFORT.

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 06578 241300Z

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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